

IPW

## PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Timm J. Fenton et al. Customer No.: 21003  
 Serial No. : 10/829,412 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
 Filed : April 21, 2004 Group Art Unit: 3727  
 For : PIVOTABLE TOWING ARRANGEMENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

November 5, 2004

Date of Deposit

Gary M. Butter

Attorney Name

Signature

33,841

Patent Reg. No.

November 5, 2004

Date of Signature

Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 and respectfully request that the listed document be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-captioned application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claim in the application NY02:495704.1

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and applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the document.

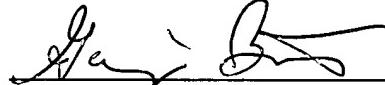
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits of referenced application. Therefore, applicants do not believe that any fee is due in connection with the submission of this paper. However, if any fee is due, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 02-4377. Duplicate copies of this sheet are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

By:

  
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Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce  
(REV. 2-82) Patent and Trademark Office



Atty. Docket No.  
A36133 - 072841.0230

Serial No.  
10/829,412

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicants  
Fenton et al.

Filing Date  
April 21, 2004

Group Art Unit  
3727

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| *Exam.<br>Init. |  | Document No. |   |   |   |   |   |   |  | Date     | Name         | Class | Subclass | Filing Date<br>if Appropriate |
|-----------------|--|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|----------|--------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
|                 |  | 6            | 6 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 9 | 2 |  | 11/25/03 | Smith, Sr.   | 280   | 47.26    |                               |
|                 |  | 6            | 5 | 9 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 1 |  | 07/15/03 | Chen         | 190   | 115      |                               |
|                 |  | 6            | 5 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 9 |  | 03/11/03 | Lu           | 190   | 115      |                               |
|                 |  | 6            | 5 | 0 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 4 |  | 01/21/03 | Lu           | 190   | 115      |                               |
|                 |  | 6            | 4 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 3 |  | 10/29/02 | Comstock     | 16    | 445      |                               |
|                 |  | 6            | 4 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 0 |  | 08/20/02 | Chen         | 16    | 113.1    |                               |
|                 |  | 6            | 3 | 5 | 7 | 0 | 8 | 0 |  | 03/19/02 | Tsai         | 16    | 113.1    |                               |
|                 |  | 6            | 3 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 4 |  | 11/20/01 | Gallagher    | 16    | 114.1    |                               |
|                 |  | 6            | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 0 |  | 10/16/01 | Sadow et al. | 190   | 18       |                               |
|                 |  | 5            | 8 | 9 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 0 |  | 04/06/99 | Sadow        | 190   | 18       |                               |
|                 |  | 5            | 8 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 3 |  | 09/15/98 | Tsai         | 16    | 115      |                               |
|                 |  | 5            | 7 | 0 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 1 |  | 01/13/98 | Wang         | 190   | 115      |                               |
|                 |  | 5            | 4 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 0 |  | 11/07/95 | Liang        | 190   | 18       |                               |
|                 |  | 5            | 3 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 0 | 0 |  | 10/11/94 | Stilley      | 190   | 18       |                               |
|                 |  | 5            | 3 | 3 | 9 | 9 | 3 | 4 |  | 08/23/94 | Liang        | 190   | 18       |                               |
|                 |  | 5            | 2 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 7 |  | 11/30/93 | Hull et al.  | 16    | 114      |                               |
|                 |  | 5            | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 7 |  | 03/19/91 | Becca        | 280   | 47.24    |                               |
|                 |  | 4            | 0 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 9 |  | 12/13/77 | Tabor et al. | 190   | 18       |                               |
|                 |  | 1            | 6 | 1 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 2 |  | 02/08/27 | Mastrontonio | 280   | 79.2     |                               |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT**

|  |  | Document No. |   |   |   |   |   |   |  | Date     | Country                    | Class | SubClass | Translator<br>Yes No |
|--|--|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|----------|----------------------------|-------|----------|----------------------|
|  |  | 0            | 1 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 7 |  | 07/26/01 | WO                         |       |          |                      |
|  |  | 3            | 6 | 3 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 4 |  | 04/28/88 | DE (with English abstract) |       |          |                      |
|  |  | 2            | 3 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 8 |  | 07/21/78 | FR (with English abstract) |       |          |                      |

Examiner

Date Considered

\* Examiner: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.  
NY02:503385.1

The PTO did not receive the following  
listed item(s) for NPL

**Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce  
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3727

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  | U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2004/0182665 by Scicluna, published September 23, 2004.     |
|  |  | U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2003/0132080 by Dababneh, published July 17, 2003           |
|  |  | U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2003/0079950 by Lin et al., published May 1, 2003.          |
|  |  | U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0144874 by Nykoluk et al., published October 10, 2002. |

Examiner

Date Considered

\* Examiner: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

NY02:503385.1